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Inspection of immigrants at Ponce for the week ended August 23, 1902.

PONCE, P. R., August 25, 1902.

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for Porto Rico, I submit herewith report of alien steerage passengers arriving at this port during the week ended August 23, 1902. August 17, French steamship *Salvador*, from Port au Prince and Santo Domingo, with 19 immigrants. August 18, Cuban steamship *Julia*, from Havana and Santo Domingo, with 10 immigrants. Total, 29.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

Inspection of immigrants at San Juan and subports for the week ended August 23, 1902.

SAN JUAN, P. R., August 27, 1902.

SIR: I submit herewith report of alien steerage passengers arriving at this port during the week ended August 23, 1902. August 18, Spanish steamship *Leon XIII*, from Havana, Port Limon, Colon, Barranquilla, Puerto Cabello, La Guaira, and Ponce, with 1 immigrant. August 19, Cuban steamship *Julia*, from Cuban and Dominican ports, with 21 immigrants; German steamship *Hispania*, from Hamburg and St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, with 1 immigrant. Total, 23.

Respectfully,

H. S. MATHEWSON,
Passed Assistant Surgeon,
Chief Quarantine Officer for Porto Rico.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

SAN JUAN, P. R., August 27, 1902.

SIR: I submit herewith report of alien steerage passengers arriving during the week ended August 23, 1902. at subports of Porto Rico.

Mayaguez.—August 18, Cuban steamship *Julia*, from Cuban and Dominican ports, with 1 immigrant. Other subports, no transactions.

Respectfully,

H. S. MATHEWSON,
Passed Assistant Surgeon,
Chief Quarantine Officer for Porto Rico.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

SCOTLAND.

Precautions against cholera.

EDINBURG, SCOTLAND, August 16, 1902.

SIR: In view of the spread of cholera in Egypt, the board desire to impress upon all local authorities, and especially upon seaboard local authorities the necessity for readiness and vigilance.

They have to direct the attention of local authorities within whose district there is a port or harbor to the order of January 1, 1898, and the regulations therein contained.

The board would remind all local authorities of their duty to see that their district is at all times kept free of nuisances and all insanitary conditions. Districts where the local authorities have habitually neglected their duties and permitted nuisances to continue are those which present a congenial soil for the organism of cholera, and in which there is the greatest likelihood of the spread of the disease should a case be casually

imported. When the infection has reached this country, local action in such districts is taken more or less under the influence of panic. It is precipitate, costly, and ineffective. The only means of establishing a state of thorough preparedness is by the steady performance from year to year of statutory duty. In the case of cholera, a pure water supply, the provision of proper conveniences, their care and cleansing, systematic public scavenging, and all measures tending to the prevention of excremental nuisance are of prime importance.

With regard to hospital accommodation for cases of cholera, the board takes this opportunity of stating that local authorities who have provided hospitals for the use of the inhabitants of their district suffering from the ordinary infectious diseases may, with safety, under proper supervision, set aside an isolated portion for the reception of cases of cholera. It is to be remembered, however, that persons suffering from this rapidly progressing and exhausting disease can not be transported to any distance without injury, and that the risk of the dissemination of infective matters during transport is great.

A copy of this circular has been sent to the medical officer of health for his information.

G. FALCONAR-STEWART,
Secretary.

THE CLERK OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

VENEZUELA.

Yellow fever and smallpox in Valencia.

LA GUAIRA, VENEZUELA, August 25, 1902.

SIR: I have just been informed that yellow fever and smallpox exist in Valencia, Venezuela. To exactly what extent, I don't know, as the authorities here publish no information on the condition of public health.

Valencia is in communication between the said town and Caracas and La Guaira; also between Puerto Cabello and Valencia. I believe precautions should be taken to prevent introduction of these diseases, particularly into Porto Rico.

In view of this I have to-day written to Dr. Mathewson of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service in San Juan, giving him what information I had on the subject.

Respectfully,

LOUIS GOLDSCHMIDT,
United States Consul.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Foreign and insular statistical reports of countries and cities—Yearly and monthly.

ARGENTINA—*Buenos Ayres*—Month of June, 1902. Estimated population, 800,000. Total number of deaths, 1,144, including diphtheria, 11; enteric fever, 19; measles, 1; scarlet fever, 15; smallpox, 3, and 143 from tuberculosis.

AUSTRALIA—*Queensland—Brisbane*.—Month of May, 1902. Estimated population, 119,428. Total number of deaths, 124, including enteric fever, 2, and 9 from plague.

New South Wales—Sydney.—Month of June, 1902. Estimated population, 383,386. Total number of deaths, 467, including diphtheria, 4;